JONES' CYCLADENIA (Cycladenia humilis var. jonesii)

STATUS: Threatened (51 FR 16530, May 5, 1986) without critical habitat.

SPECIES DESCRIPTION: A long-lived perennial herb in the Dogbane family (Apocynaceae) with pinkish-rose flowers. Plants reach 10-15 cm (4-6 in) tall, and have orbicular, wide-oval or elliptical leaves. Plants overwinter as subterranean rhizomes (roots).

HABITAT: This species occurs between 1,338-1,829 m (4,390-6,000 ft) elevation in plant communities of mixed desertscrub, juniper, or wild buckwheat-Mormon tea. It is found on gypsiferous, saline soils of Cutler, Summerville, and Chinle Formations.

RANGE: Jones' Cycladenia are found in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area in the Purple Hills. In 1993 a new population was discovered near Colorado City and Cane Beds in Mohave County. Jones' Cycladenia are also found in the Canyonlands region of Utah.

REASONS FOR DECLINE / VULNERABILITY: This species is vulnerable to mancaused threats because of the relatively small number of populations and because the arid climate and harsh soils make this ecosystem a fragile one, slow to recover from surface disturbance. Threats include off-road vehicle traffic, exploration for uranium, oil and gas, and actions necessary to maintain mining claims.

LAND MANAGEMENT / OWNERSHIP: Bureau of Land Management, private, Utah State Lands, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Capitol Reef National Park, and possibly Pipe Springs National Monument or Kaibab-Paiute Indian Reservation.

NOTES: Protected by the Arizona Native Plant Law.